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Nogaro, B., and Moyne, M. *Les Régimes Douaniers.* Pp. 320. Price 3.50.

Fr. Paris: A. Colin, 1910.

This handy and clearly written little book on tariff systems (260 pages, without the appendices), is intended mainly for French readers and has reference chiefly to French tariff legislation and administration. The definitions and preliminary chapters, however, are of general interest; and the sections on commercial treaties, the most-favored nation clause, preferential tariffs, differential and compensatory duties, and anti-dumping laws, will appeal to American readers. Brief but illuminating accounts are given, moreover, of the present tariff policies of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and Great Britain.

The second part of the book, containing about 100 pages, deals with the administration of customs laws in France. In analyzing the forces that led to the French tariff law of March 29, 1910, the authors, both of whom are professors in the University of Montpelier, are of the opinion that "the tariff revision of 1910 had its origin not in circumstances arising within the country, but was due principally to the situation to which France was reduced by the tariff legislation of foreign countries. The upward modification of European tariffs had become general, and our own products, although sometimes enjoying the benefit of the 'most-favored nation' treatment, were more heavily taxed abroad than foreign goods imported to France. Moreover, the extreme specialization introduced by the new tariff laws and commercial treaties was such that French goods were frequently excluded from the benefits of the most-favored nation treatment." Foreign trusts, the practice of dumping, and a vexatious administration of the customs laws by other nations are said also to have worked disaster to French export trade. The law of 1910, therefore, was in a sense a retaliatory measure, hastened by an increase of protectionist sentiment and influence in France.

In view of the recent enunciation in this country, by the Republican party, of the principle that protection should be so adjusted as to equal the difference between the domestic and the foreign cost of production, it is interesting to note that ex-Minister Meline speaks of the new French duties as "scientific," that is, as "equal to the difference between French and foreign costs of production."

C. W. A. VEDITZ.

Washington, D. C.

Osborn, C. S. *The Andean Land.* 2 Vols. Pp. xxviii, 643. Price, \$5.00.

Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1909.

These two volumes do not pretend to be an exhaustive treatise on South America. They contain the impressions of a keen observer, who combines an appreciation of the picturesque with a great number of incisive and shrewd comments on national characteristics and trade and commercial